



## INTIMATIONS.

## HONGKONG TRADING COMPANY, LIMITED.

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## GENERAL DRAPERS.

a/c. a/c. a/c.

NEW GOODS  
IN ALL DEPARTMENTS.

## HONGKONG TRADING Co., LTD.

Hongkong, 8th September, 1890. [23]

## WINES AND SPIRITS

BY APPOINTMENT.  
A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.  
(ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.)  
HONGKONG.We invite attention to the following old-established  
Banks, all of which are excellent quality and  
good value for the money.The coffee, specially selected by our  
London House, and bought direct from the most  
noted Shippers are in wood and bottled  
by ourselves, thus enabling us to supply the best  
growths at moderate prices.In ordering it is only necessary to state  
the name and quantity of Wine or Spirit wanted,  
and our letter for quality desired.Orders through Local Post or by Telegram  
receive prompt attention.

POETS. (For friends and general use.)

Per doz. Case. Per Bot.

A. Alto Douro, good quality, Green Capsule \$10 \$10

B. Vintage, superior quality, Red Capsule 12 1.10

C. Fine Old, Vintage, and  
superior quality, Black Seal Capsule 14 1.25D. Very Fine Old, Vintage,  
superior, Violet  
C. Old Bottled 18 1.50

SHEERIES.

A. Delicate Pale, Dry, dinner  
wine, Green Capsule 6 0.80B. Superior Pale, Dry, dinner  
wine, Green Seal Capsule 7.50 0.75C. Mansanilla Pale, Natural  
Sherry, White Capsule 10 1.00CC. Superior Pale, Dry, Pale  
Natural Sherry, Red Seal  
Capsule 10 1.00D. Very Superior Old, Pale  
wine, choice old wine,  
White Seal Capsule 12 1.10E. Extra Superior Old, Pale  
Dry, very finest quality,  
Black Seal Capsule (Old  
Bottled) 14 1.25F. Extra Superior Old, Pale  
Dry, very finest quality,  
Black Seal Capsule (Old  
Bottled) 1 doz. Quarts. Pints.

G. BEARDED.

A. Superior Breakfast Claret,  
Red Capsule 54 34.50

B. St. Estephe, Red Capsule 54 5.00

C. St. Julian 7.75

D. La Rose 11 12.00

Per doz. Case. Per Bot.

H. HENNESSY'S OLD PALE, Etc.

A. Hennessy's Old Pale, Red  
Capsule 52 31.10B. Superior Very Old Cognac,  
Red Capsule 14 1.25C. Very Fine, Liquor, Cognac  
Capsule 18 1.50D. Hennessy's Fine, Very Old  
Liquor, Cognac 1872  
Vintage, Red Capsule 24 2.00

HOOCH WHISKY.

A. Thorne's Blend, White Cap-  
sule 8 0.75B. Watson's Glorioso, Mal-  
ta Blend, White Capsule,  
with Nameless Trade Mark 8 0.75C. Watson's Abolico-Gouliot,  
Red Capsule, with Name  
and Trade Mark 8 0.75D. Watson's H. K. D. Blend of  
the Finest Scotch Malt  
Whiskies, Violet Capsule 10 1.00E. Watson's Very Old Liquor  
Scotch Whisky, Gold Cap-  
sule 12 1.10

IRISH WHISKY.

A. John Jameson's Old, Green  
Capsule 8 0.75B. John Jameson's Fine Old,  
Green Capsule 10 1.00C. John Jameson's Very Fine  
Old, Green Capsule 12 1.10

GENUINE BOTTLES WHISKY.

fine old, Red Capsule, with  
Name 10 1.00

GIN.

A. Fine Old Tom, White Cap-  
sule 450 0.40B. Fine, Unrestored, White  
Capsule 450 0.40

C. Fine A. V. H. Geneva 550 0.50

RUM.

Finest Old Jamaica, Violet  
Capsule 12 1.00

Good Leeward Island \$1.50 per Gallon

LIQUORS.

Bacchusine, Maraschino  
Cassou, Meringue's Cherry Cordial  
Chartreuse - Dr. Sloger's Angostura  
Bitter, &c.

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NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Only communications relating to our news columns  
should be addressed to "The Editor."Correspondents are requested to forward their  
communications to the office of the *Daily Press*, and  
not to the office of the *Evening Standard*.Orders for extra copies of the *Daily Press* should  
be sent before 11 a.m. on the day of publication.Telegraphic Address, *Press*. Telephone No. 12.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, OCTOBER 3RD, 1890.

The decline in the export of tea from China  
to Great Britain has been partially counter-  
balanced by an increase in the export  
to Russia, a circumstance from which the  
apologists for China's suicidal policy in re-  
gard to her principal article of trade have  
derived more consolation than is fairly war-  
ranted. It is only a question of time how  
soon China will be relegated to the same  
relative position in the Russian market that  
it occupies in the English market. Russian  
buyers will find out sooner or later that  
they can get tea of equal quality at much  
cheaper prices. Ceylon planters are taking  
active steps to bring this fact prominently  
before the subjects of the Czar, and when  
they have succeeded Russian tea drinkers  
will not be slow to take advantage of it. At  
present the Ceylon Planters' Association has  
a Commissioner in Russia, and an interesting  
letter from him giving particulars regard-  
ing his mission was recently published in  
the Ceylon papers. From St. Petersburg  
he writes that from all the information he  
has been able to collect since his arrival  
here is a great future before Ceylon tea.in Russia, where it is already pretty well-  
known and appreciated for its purity and  
cleanliness of manufacture. It is not the  
fact, he says, that the tea are found too  
strong and dark in infusion, as the Russians  
like a somewhat strong tea and do not at all  
object to a dark reddish colour, but what  
they do not like, at least in St. Petersburg,  
is the sweet raspberry taste given to Ceylon  
teas by the water of the Neva. Whether  
any alteration may take place in the popular  
taste in this respect or whether the ob-  
jection can be removed by some alteration  
in the manufacture of the tea remains to be  
seen, but at all events all the dealers, both  
wholesale and retail, were desirous of seeing  
and tasting the samples. These samples  
were to be distributed with a short circular  
printed in the English, German, French, and  
Russian languages. From St. Petersburg  
the Commissioner proposed to go to Moscow  
and Nijni Novgorod, to push Ceylon tea  
there.A recent outbreak in British North Borneo,  
resulting in a native police officer losing his life,  
has been found, the Straits Times says, to arise  
from the latter having taken to head hunting  
along with a number of friends.The Penang Gazette says that the embarkation  
of the departed Chinese has been shot with  
a gun, a fine bull elephant has been shot with  
a gun, and the Straits Times says, to arise  
from the latter having taken to head hunting  
along with a number of friends.The German steamer *Amigo* belonging to the  
Compania Mexicana, which put into Amoy, left  
again on Wednesday evening. The reason  
given for her going into port is that the Cap-  
tain thought there was something wrong with  
the vessel as she was unable to make her usual  
speed.The *Straits Times* says that the embarkation  
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# MAIL SUPPLEMENT TO THE HONGKONG DAILY PRESS.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2ND, 1890.

## TREATY RIGHTS IN FORMOSA.

In another column we reprint an interesting letter from South Formosa, which describes a lamentable state of things in that island. The brave warrior Liu MING-CHUAN, a man we believe of excellent intentions, has hopelessly broken down as an administrator, and since the island was elevated from a dependency of Fuhien into an independent province things have rapidly gone from bad to worse. As it is tersely expressed by our Shanghai morning contemporary, Liu, when the change took place, "set to work to reorganise the island; he would have arsenals, railways, roads, steamers, a postal service, and he found plenty of admirers to show him how to spend his money while it lasted." The money is now all gone, and to raise the wherewithal to carry on the administration, the people are being taxed to such an extent as to cause them to long for the advent of some foreign power to assume possession of the island and relieve them from their crushing burdens. No assistance, however, is likely to come from that quarter, and the people will have to wait for relief until an alteration of policy on the part of their rulers takes place. That time might perhaps be hastened by their own efforts, for the populace in China are able to bring considerable pressure to bear on the officials, especially when those officials have empty exchequers. But it is not only the natives who suffer; the privileges hitherto enjoyed by foreigners are threatened. A monopoly of camphor has been established, thereby crippling the trade in that article. As such a monopoly is directly contrary to the treaties the foreign representatives at Peking have a clear case on which to demand its abolition. Lekin exactions are also being made more onerous. This question stands on the same footing in Formosa as in other parts of China. Unfortunately the legality of lekin has been recognised; contrary, as we maintain, to the clear reading of the treaties. Still, recognised it has been, and the only thing now to be done is in Formosa, as elsewhere, to insist upon a due observance of the transit pass regulations. The Formosan authorities do not recognise these passes, but they ought to be made to do so. The attempt—not specifically referred to in the letter under notice, but mentioned in previous ones—to make good travel by particular routes involving extensive detours so as to compel them to pass a certain number of the squeeze stations is so preposterously illegal that it could not be supported by any rational argument. It is true it is not expressly provided against in the treaties, for the reason that the necessity of such a provision could never have occurred to the negotiators, but that cannot be held to justify the officials in Formosa in their high-handed action. On all these points the position of the foreigners in Formosa calls for the attention of the Ministers at Peking.

Another very important point raised by the correspondent is as to the extent of the treaty area at Taiwan. The Governor, it is said, seeks to limit the port to the area at present occupied by some foreigners at Amoy, excluding the city of Taiwan itself. This is a claim that cannot find a shadow of justification. The correspondent, however, advances a claim which seems just as unreasonable the other way. According to his reading of the treaty, "all the cities and ports" of Formosa are "distinctly stated to be open to British trade when it suits the convenience or inclination of the British Government to act on their rights." In support of the claim he refers to the fact that when the treaty came into operation several places were selected for foreign residence, the name Taiwan as used in the treaty meaning, according to his reading, the whole island of Formosa and not the particular city of Taiwan. The argument is further elaborated in an article in the *N. C. Daily News*. The words of the English version of Art. XL of the English Treaty of Tientsin are:—"In addition to the cities and towns of Canton, Amoy, Foochow, Ningpo, and Shanghai, opened by the 'Treaty of Nanking,' it is agreed that British subjects may frequent the cities and ports of New-chwang, Tengchow (Chefoo), Taiwan (Formosa), Chao-chow (Swatow), and Kiang-chow (Hainan)."

As Taiwan means both the island and its chief town, our contemporary admits that there would appear to be some ambiguity, but it argues that in the case of Tengchow and Chao-chow the words in brackets, Chefoo and Swatow, give the ports actually opened, and by analogy with them the treaty opens the whole of Formosa; while in the case of Kiang-chow, Hainan seems to be added to mark the locality. This is ingenious, certainly. Authority for the argument is sought in the fact that MERCER, in his "Treaties between the Empire of China and Foreign Powers," gives the following marginal note to Art. XL of the Treaty:—"British subjects may trade at the ports of New-chwang, Tengchow, Formosa, Swatow, and Kiang-chow, and have the same privileges as at the ports already open." This, it is claimed, shows that MERCER read the treaty as opening all the ports of Formosa to foreign trade. The authority of a marginal note, however, especially when the note forms no part of the original document, amounts to nothing. A better guide to the real meaning may be found in the wording of the corresponding provision in the treaties of other powers. The treaty with France was signed the day after that with England, and the English and French negotiators acted in concert. The French treaty reads, not "Taiwan (Formosa)," but "Tous les ports d'Amoy et de Formosa." In the American treaty the words are "Taiwan in Formosa." In the German and most of the other treaties the French, however, are mentioned as well as Taiwan. Why it was omitted from the British and American treaties we do not know, but it is clear that as used in the latter it Taiwan cannot possibly mean the whole of Formosa.

It is only by a strained interpretation it can be read in the British treaty. It is true that the ports of Takow, Tamsui, and Kelung have been opened to trade without any special agreement, and that foreigners have also been allowed to build houses and carry on trade at Tawtow, an inland town. Any attempt to withdraw the privileges which have been granted at those places must of course be resisted, but the fact that the Chinese have voluntarily opened certain ports cannot fairly be taken as evidence that the original intention of the whole island should be opened. It would be satisfactory if such a reading of the treaty could be adopted, but we are afraid that on this occasion it must be admitted the devil's advocate has the best of the argument.

## RUSSIA, CHINA, AND KOREA.

In a recent issue of the Times appeared an article on China by the Peking correspondent of that journal. The article is remarkable for the very grave accusation brought against Colonel POORTZIA, the Russian military attaché, of withholding important information from his Government for the purpose of furthering his own ambitious ends. Colonel POORTZIA, it is alleged, has a policy of his own, which he wants to tempt Russia to carry out for his benefit, that policy being an invasion of Manchuria from the Amur, by way of the Sungari, in which he would necessarily be the master as possessing all the topographical information, as well as the military, financial and political data necessary to conduct an expedition with success. But of what nature is the information? In the middle of the article we are told that "France and Russia know to a nicely the military force of China, at least they would know their strength to give them the exact details," and when follows the charge against the Russian agent of furthering a policy of invasion. We are told that he "has not only sent full reports to his Government, but has written to the English Government, recommending that the Chinese appear to have management of the frontier, and has given his support to his article while in course of writing, it and landed himself in a position of contradiction." Colonel POORTZIA, for what we know to the contrary, may be as desirous as he is represented, but it would be unfair to accept that view of his character on the strength of the statements made by the Times correspondent. In reproducing the article as one of general interest, we have thought it only fair to say this much on its personal aspect as affecting an officer holding an important and responsible post.

All Manchuria and Korea, we are told, will fall to Russia through natural causes, unless the compact formation on the loose formation, being sufficient to work out that result, given time and non-interference. We are further told in the concluding lines of the article that "It is possible for Russia to obtain all she requires from China, now, and another Tax-free port in Peking might be secured for her Government the mastery of China in fact free." We do not believe it, but the Chinese may be powerless to prevent her feudatories breaking away from her, but she would not without a struggle consent to be denuded of any portion of territory included in the Empire proper, and more especially in the present case, humiliated and other, secure for his Government the mastery of China in fact free." 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